

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00121 191039Z

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 /020 W
-----191345Z 094324 /43

R 190839Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2260

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

UNCLAS SOFIA 0121

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, PFOR, BU

SUBJECT: US-GOB EXCHANGES AGREEMENT AND PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 310723, B. SOFIA 2636, C. SOFIA 2632

1. ON JANUARY 17 DCM & P&C OFFICER LUNCED WITH CHAVDAR DAMYANOV, CHIEF OF MFA CULTURAL COOPERATION DEPARTMENT, TO DISCUSS STATUS OF US-GOB EXCHANGE AGREEMENT AND PROGRAM DOCUMENT. DAMYANOV SAID GOB IS WAITING FOR DEPT TO INDICATE APPROVAL OF DRAFT PROGRAM. HE EXPECTS GOB APPROVAL 2-3 WEEKS THEREAFTER. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL POINTS WERE COVERED.

2. HELSINKI. NOTING "HELSINKI" HAD BEEN FORGOTTEN, DAMYANOV PROPOSED A REFERENCE TO FURTHERING ITS SPIRIT BE INCLUDED IN AGREEMENT. HE WILL SUGGEST LANGUAGE.

3. LECTURER/PROFESSOR. WHILE AWAITING SIGNING OF PROGRAM DOCUMENT, BOTH SIDES RECOGNIZED NEED TO BEGIN IMMEDIATE SEARCH FOR UNIVERSITY LECTURER (ARTICLE I, PARA. 2 AND ART IV, PARA. 7 OF DRAFT PROGRAM DOCUMENT.) ALSO, BOTH AGREED US SHOULD PROVIDE LECTURER IN AMERICAN LITERATURE OR ENGLISH TEACHING FOR 1977 SUMMER COURSE IN
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BULGARIA FOR BULGARIAN TEACHERS OF ENGLISH IF SUCH COURSE WILL BE SCHEDULED (ART. I, PARA. 5). DAMYANOV WILL INFORM EMBASSY.

4. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ART & CULTURE. IN VIEW OF UNCERTAINTY EXPRESSED RICHMOND'S OFFICIAL-INFORMAL LETTER OF DEC. 23 REGARDING THIS PROVISION, WE

RE-CONFIRMED AS CORRECT ART. I, PARA. 6 OF DRAFT: "EACH PARTY WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PROVIDE TWO SCHOLARSHIPS FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE MONTHS EACH FOR STUDY IN THE OTHER COUNTRY IN FIELDS OF ART AND CULTURE. SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE DETERMINED IN EACH CASE." DAMYANOV AGAIN NOTED THIS PROVISION INSERTED AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF COMMITTEE ON ART & CULTURE, SINCE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNICAL PROGRESS AND HIGHER EDUCATION IS ALLOTTED THE PRESENT IREX PROGRAM.

5. IV PROGRAM. IN ADDITION TO MRS. TSANEVA, WHO HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY DEPT FOR IV GRANT, MFA HAS RECOMMENDED ARCHITECT VERA KOLAROVA TO VISIT US IN APRIL OR MAY AS SPECIALIST IN PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL MONUMENTS (SEPTER WILL FOLLOW). PER REF A DCM SUGGESTED THAT PETUR BASHIKAROV, DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE, PARTICIPATE IN MULTI-REGIONAL PROJECT ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS (MARCH 13-APRIL 2 OR 9, 1977). DAMYANOV VOICED APPROVAL AND WILL DISCUSS WITH BASHIKAROV.

6. ACTION REQUESTED. AUTHORITY TO INFORM DAMYANOV US SIDE APPROVES PROGRAM DOCUMENT AS NEGOTIATED DECEMBER 11.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA00121
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770019-1274
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770136/aaaabfun.tel
Line Count: 87
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 06e0a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 310723, 77 SOFIA 2636, 77 SOFIA 2632
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3557535
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-GOB EXCHANGES AGREEMENT AND PROGRAM
TAGS: OEXC, SCUL, PFOR, BU, US, (DAMYANOV, CHAVDAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/06e0a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009